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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/000,332	12/04/2001	Hirofumi Okamura	1248-0567P-SP	9777
2292	7590	02/14/2006		
BIRCH STEWART KOLASCH & BIRCH PO BOX 747 FALLS CHURCH, VA 22040-0747			EXAMINER BOUTAH, ALINA A	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER

2143

DATE MAILED: 02/14/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/000,332

Applicant(s)

OKAMURA ET AL.

Examiner

Alina N Boutah

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 December 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-26 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 12/01/05.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

This action is in response to Applicant's amendment filed November 16, 2005. Claims 24-26 have been newly added. Accordingly, claims 1-26 are pending in the application.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

Claims 24-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter, which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention. The specification fails to disclose the steps of inputting the search condition to a search engine; performing a search with the search engine to locate information related to the at least one stored client data; detecting a modification of the client data; automatically defining a new search condition for retrieving information related to the detected modification; inputting the new search condition to the search engine to locate information related to the modified client data; and performing a search with the search engine to locate information related to the modified client data. Applicant is hereby requested to point out exactly where in the specification these elements are located.

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 1-5, 7, 9-13, 15-18 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over US 2002/0002596 by Sugiarto et al. (hereinafter referred to as Sugiarto).

Regarding claim 1, Sugiarto teaches a database server accessible to/from a client via a network, comprising:

reception and transmission means for sending/receiving data to/from the client [0018];

data storage means having a client data storage region which stores client data corresponding to the client [figure 1; abstract; 0006; 0016, 0020; 0024: database storing client configuration file];

client data management means for managing the client data [abstract; 0006; 0020]; and

information collection condition set means for setting, when the client data is modified, an information collection condition for specifying such information data as to be required by the client in future based on the modification [0020-0022: configuration file]

Sugiarto does not explicitly teach information data creation means for creating the information data by a search performed according to the information collection condition,

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although he teaches retrieving of web pages based on a list of URL's after upon completion of editing the configuration file [0024; 0026]. It is well known in the art of computing that in order to retrieve something, it has to be searched as evidenced by High-Tech Dictionary Definition for "retrieve," which is defined as "to locate data in storage, so it can be displayed on the screen and/or processed." In this case, "to locate" has substantial meaning as "to search" as required by the claim. At the time the invention was made, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to create an information data by a search in order to provide users with personalized information retrieval scheme, thus allowing needs according to the capabilities of user's device.

Regarding claim 2, Sugiarto teaches the database server set forth in claim 1, wherein: the client is informed of the creation of the information data [0024; 0026].

Regarding claim 3, Sugiarto teaches the database server set forth in claim 1, wherein: the client is informed of the information collection condition [0024; 0026].

Regarding claim 4, Sugiarto teaches the database server set forth in claim 1, wherein: the information collection condition set means is actuated upon access to/from the client [0020; 0025].

Regarding claim 5, Sugiarto teaches the database server set forth in claim 1, wherein: the information collection condition set means modifies the information collection condition based on client's instructions [0020-0022].

Regarding claim 7, Sugiarto teaches the database server set forth in claim 1, wherein: the information collection condition set means sets the information collection condition based on a network address which corresponds to an attribute of the modified client data [0025].

Regarding claim 9, Sugiarto teaches the database server set forth in claim 1, wherein: the information data creation means searches the data storage means [0024 and 0026].

Regarding claim 10, Sugiarto teaches the database server set forth in claim 1, wherein: the information data creation means stores in the data storage means the created information data in association with the client data [0020].

Regarding claim 11, Sugiarto teaches the database server set forth in claim 1, wherein: the information data creation means causes the created information data to include presentation format control data which controls a format in which the client data is presented by the client [abstract; 0006; 0020].

Regarding claim 12, Sugiarto teaches the database server set forth in Claim 1, wherein:
the client data management means modifies the client data based on an instruction given from a
different server capable of accessing the network [0020; 0023].

Regarding claim 13, Sugiarto teaches the database server set forth in claim 1, wherein:
the information collection condition set means sets the information collection condition by using
separate client information [0020].

Regarding claim 15, Sugiarto teaches a database server accessible to/from a client via a
network, comprising:

reception and transmission means for sending/receiving data to/from the client [0018];

data storage means having a client data storage region which stores client data
corresponding to the client [figure 1; abstract; 0006; 0016, 0020; 0024]; and

information collection condition set means for detecting a data modification in the client
data storage region and setting an information collection condition for specifying such
information data as to be required by the client in future based on results of the detection [0020-
0022].

Sugiarto does not explicitly teach information data creation means for creating the
information data by a search performed according to the information collection condition,

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although he teaches retrieving of web pages based on a list of URL's [0024; 0026]. It is well known in the art of computing that in order to retrieve something, it has to be searched as evidenced by High-Tech Dictionary Definition for "retrieve," which is defined as "to locate data in storage, so it can be displayed on the screen and/or processed." In this case, "to locate" has substantial meaning as "to search" as required by the claim. At the time the invention was made, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to create an information data by a search in order to provide users with personalized information retrieval scheme, thus allowing needs according to the capabilities of user's device.

Regarding claim 16, Sugiarto teaches a server-executable information management program, comprising the steps of:

detecting a modification in such client data corresponding to each client that is under management of the server [0020]; and

setting an information collection condition for specifying such information data as to be required by the client in future based on the modification [0020-0022].

Sugiarto does not explicitly teach information data creation means for creating the information data by a search performed according to the information collection condition, although he teaches retrieving of web pages based on a list of URL's [0024; 0026]. It is well known in the art of computing that in order to retrieve something, it has to be searched as evidenced by High-Tech Dictionary Definition for "retrieve," which is defined as "to locate data in storage, so it can be displayed on the screen and/or processed." In this case, "to locate" has

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substantial meaning as “to search” as required by the claim. At the time the invention was made, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to create an information data by a search in order to provide users with personalized information retrieval scheme, thus allowing needs according to the capabilities of user’s device.

Regarding claim 17, Sugiarto teaches a computer-readable recording medium in which the information management program of claim 16 is recorded [figure 1; abstract; 0006; 0016, 0020; 0024].

Regarding claim 18, Sugiarto teaches an information management method which allows a server to manage information corresponding to each client, comprising the steps of:

detecting a data modification in a client data storage region, the client data corresponding to each client [0020]; and

setting an information collection condition for specifying such information data as to be required by the client in future based on the data modification thus detected [0020-0022].

Sugiarto does not explicitly teach information data creation means for creating the information data by a search performed according to the information collection condition, although he teaches retrieving of web pages based on a list of URL’s [0024; 0026]. It is well known in the art of computing that in order to retrieve something, it has to be searched as evidenced by High-Tech Dictionary Definition for “retrieve,” which is defined as “to locate data

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in storage, so it can be displayed on the screen and/or processed.” In this case, “to locate” has substantial meaning as “to search” as required by the claim. At the time the invention was made, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to create an information data by a search in order to provide users with personalized information retrieval scheme, thus allowing needs according to the capabilities of user’s device.

Regarding claim 21, Sugiarto teaches the database server as set forth in claim 1, wherein the information collection condition set means sets the information collection condition automatically upon modification of the client data [0024].

Regarding claim 23, Sugiarto teaches the database server as set forth in claim 1, wherein the information collection condition set means sets the information collection condition based on position information stored in the client data [0031].

Claims 6, 8, 14, 22, 24-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sugiarto in view of Malik (USPN 6,842,782).

Regarding claim 6, Sugiarto fails to teach teaches the database server set forth in claim 1, wherein: the information collection condition set means sets the information collection condition with reference to a keyword table which corresponds to an attribute of the client data. Malik

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teaches a database server wherein: the information collection condition set means sets the information collection condition with reference to a keyword table which corresponds to an attribute of the client data (figure 6; col. 7, lines 16-28). At the time the invention was made, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to set information collection condition with reference to a keyword table in order to provide easy search, thus making it easier to find information.

Regarding claim 8, Sugiarto fails to explicitly teach the database server set forth in claim 1, wherein: the information collection condition set means sets the information collection condition by using a record of information data collection performed in the past. Malik teaches a database server wherein: the information collection condition set means sets the information collection condition by using a record of information data collection performed in the past (col. 26, lines 53-62). At the time the invention was made, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to set information collection condition by using a record information perform in the past in order to aid developer in predicting when a site change may occur (col. 26, lines 61-62).

Regarding claim 14, Sugiarto fails to explicitly teach the database server set forth in claim 13, wherein: the separate client information includes information on use status of the information data created by the information creation means in the past. Malik teaches the database server wherein: the separate client information includes information on use status of the

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information data created by the information creation means in the past (abstract). At the time the invention was made, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to include information on use status of the information data created by the information creation means in the past in order to aid developer in predicting when a site change may occur (col. 26, lines 61-62).

Regarding claim 22, Sugiarto fails to explicitly teach the database sever as set forth in claim 1, wherein the information collection condition set means sets the information collection based on schedule data contained in the client data. Malik teaches the database sever wherein the information collection condition set means sets the information collection based on schedule data contained in the client data (col. 17, lines 5-24). At the time the invention was made, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to set the information collection based on a schedule data contain in the client data in order to provide client the ability to specify the time or period for obtaining data.

(New) Regarding claim 24, Sugiarto teaches a method of collecting information comprising the steps of: storing client data [figure 1; abstract; 0006; 0016, 0020; 0024: database storing client configuration file] and detecting a modification of the client data (abstract). Sugiarto does not explicitly teach defining search condition although he teaches retrieving of web pages based on a list of URL's [0024; 0026]. It is well known in the art of computing that in order to retrieve something, it has to be searched as evidenced by High-Tech Dictionary Definition for "retrieve," which is defined as "to locate data in storage, so it can be displayed on

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the screen and/or processed.” In this case, “to locate” has substantial meaning as “to search” as required by the claim.

Sugiarto also does not explicitly defining a search condition for retrieving information related to at least one of the stored client data; inputting the search condition to a search engine; performing a search with the search engine to locate information related to the at least one stored client data; detecting a modification of the client data; automatically defining a new search condition for retrieving information related to the detected modification; inputting the new search condition to the search engine to locate information related to the modified client data; and performing a search with the search engine to locate information related to the modified client data.

Malik teaches defining a search condition for retrieving information related to at least one of the stored client data; inputting the search condition to a search engine; performing a search with the search engine to locate information related to the at least one stored client data; automatically defining a new search condition for retrieving information related to the detected modification; inputting the new search condition to the search engine to locate information related to the modified client data; and performing a search with the search engine to locate information related to the modified client data (col. 11, lines 49-51). It the time the invention was made, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to incorporate the teaching of Malik in order to provide automated site navigation and manipulation for users.

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(New) Regarding claim 25, Sugiarto teaches the method of claim 24, wherein said step of defining a search condition for retrieving information for retrieving information related to the stored client data comprises the step of defining a search condition for retrieving information related to and not specified by the stored client data (abstract; 0006).

(New) Regarding claim 26, Sugiarto teaches the method of claim 24 wherein said at least one client data does not comprise a URL [0026].

Claims 19 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Sugiarto in view of Applicant's admitted prior art (AAPR).

Regarding claim 19, Sugiarto teaches a method of collecting information comprising the steps of:

storing client data [figure 1; abstract; 0006; 0016, 0020; 0024: database storing client configuration file];

setting an information collection condition [0020-0022];

collecting information based on the information collection condition [0020-0022: configuration file];

detecting a modification of the client data [0024];

changing the collection condition based on the detected modification [0020, 0024]; and
collecting information based on the changed information collection condition [0024].

However, Sugiarto fails to explicitly teach changing the collection condition automatically. AAPR teaches this limitation in the specification, page 2, lines 12-20, and page 6, lines 5-16. At the time the invention was made, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to automatically change information collection condition based on the detected modification in order to provide automated site navigation and manipulation for users.

Claim 20 is similar to claim 1 except that information collection condition is set automatically. AAPR teaches this limitation in the specification, page 2, lines 12-20, and page 6, lines 5-16. At the time the invention was made, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to automatically change information collection condition based on the detected modification in order to provide automated site navigation and manipulation for users.

Response to Arguments

Applicant's arguments dated June 9, 2005 in respect to independent claims were found persuasive, because the cited prior art failed to teach each and every limitation in the claims 1, 15, 16, and 18, specifically, it did not explicitly teach "information data creation means for creating the information data by a **search** performed according to the information collection condition." The dependent claims were not addressed because they depended on the claims that

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depended upon inappropriately rejected claims. This resulted in the withdrawn of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) in the Office action dated August 19, 2005. Claims 1-18 were then rejected under 35 U.S.C 103(a) in the previous office action.

In the telephone dated September 14, 2005, the Examiner explained to Applicant that the claims that do not mention the second reference (Malik) were meant to be obviousness rejections under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) based on single reference Sugiarto.

The rejection on claim 1 above addresses how Sugiarto can be modified to include missing element, "information data creation means for creating the information data by a search performed according to the information collection condition." Attached to this action is a High-Tech Dictionary Definition, which defines "retrieve" as challenged by Applicant in page 12 of Applicant's argument. Claims 6, 8, 14 and 22 have been rewritten to which put the claims in better form for 35 U.S.C. 103(a) rejections.

Applicant's argument in regards to claims 19 and 20 have been persuasive, therefore the rejection is withdrawn. However, they are in moot under new ground of rejection as set forth above.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alina N. Boutah whose telephone number is 571-272-3908. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (9:00 am - 5:00 pm).

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, David A. Wiley can be reached on 571-272-3923. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

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